

OGDEN ARSENAL, IGLOO TYPE MAGAZINE
(OGDEN ARSENAL, BUILDING 1811)
(OGDEN ARSENAL, BUILDING 811)
(OGDEN ARSENAL, MISSILE SERVICE IGLOO)
6323 Iroquois
Layton Vicinity
Davis County
Utah

HAER No. UT-84-AQ

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Denver, Colorado 80225-0287

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

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Location: 6323 Iroquois Lane, Hill Air Force Base, Layton Vicinity, Davis County, Utah

UTM: 12-414840-4555620

Date of Construction: 1941

Architect: Unknown

Builder: Unknown

Present Owner: Hill Air Force Base

Present Use: Munitions Storage

Significance: Building 1811 provides particularly vivid insight into the processes involved in the storage of highly explosive components like munitions. In addition, this building contributes to an understanding of the U.S. Army build-up which occurred on the eve of and during World War II.

History: The introduction of various types of ammunition manufacture at Ogden Arsenal during World War II necessitated the construction of many new buildings which took various forms as related to their specific functions within the overall manufacture and storage processes.

Igloo Type Magazines such as Building 1811 stored ordnance material and were designed to minimize damage to additional buildings in the event of explosions. The igloo is covered with an earthen mound and separated from surrounding buildings by open land. A concrete apron with a sharp slope upward from the entry made fork lift operations outside igloos like Building 1811 a difficult task, so all ordnance material

was loaded by hand until 1943. That year, a process was developed that kept automatic electric fork lift trucks with combination forks inside the igloos while a conveyor track was laid from rail cars or trucks into the doorway. Both small arms ammunition and bombs were handled in this way, which saved approximately one half the time previously used by hand loading alone, with half as many workers.

This igloo is double sided, and could originally be entered from either the east or west side. It is one of twelve such examples which still exist on Hill Air Force Base. The others are located in the same area and include Buildings 1805, 1806, 1811-1816, 1822-1824, and 1836. Electrical wiring and lights were added to these buildings during World War II.

General

Description: Building 1811 (29'-2" x 61'-10") is a double-sided, full trapezoidal igloo, located in the igloo storage area just south of the original North Loading Plant. The igloo walls, floor, and roof are of reinforced concrete and the roof and side walls are covered with an earthen mound. This igloo features a protruded entry with a recessed door on each side of this earthen mound. The west entrance wall is a full trapezoidal shape which tapers to the ground, and the east entry wall is a truncated shape.

Building 1811 maintains its historic integrity. Buildings 1805 and 1806 are similar but have a modified access door. Igloos 1816 and 1836 have been compromised with shed-roof additions across the truncated wall. These sheds have metal walls and two sets of double entry doors each.